

OUR TOWN



BY
THORNTON WILDER

Mendelssohn Theatre

Feb. 11-14



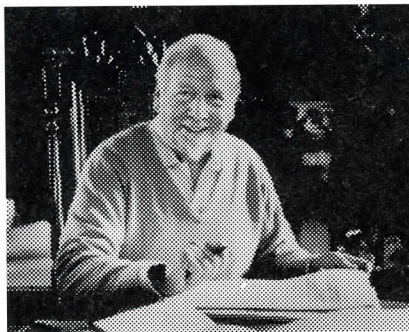
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ORCHESTRA OF ST. LUKE'S Roger Norrington, conductor Nancy Argenta, soprano

**Sunday, March 14
4 p.m., Hill Auditorium**

Ann Arborites will fondly remember Maestro Norrington's appearance for Michigan MozartFest in 1989. Now he returns with the highly-acclaimed Orchestra of St. Luke's to tackle another composer with *Dr. Haydn's London Academy*, comprised of works that would have been performed in London in 1793.

Free Philips Pre-concert Presentation:

Listening with 18th-Century Ears, or the Impossibility of Authenticity. Professor Steven Moore Whiting, Professor of Music History/Musicology, U-M. **Rackham, 3 p.m.**

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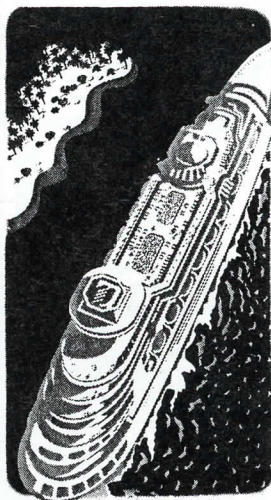
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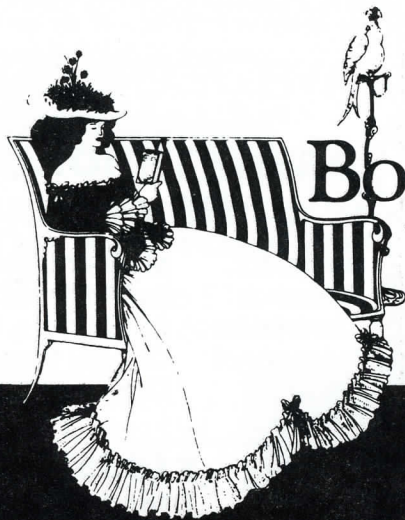
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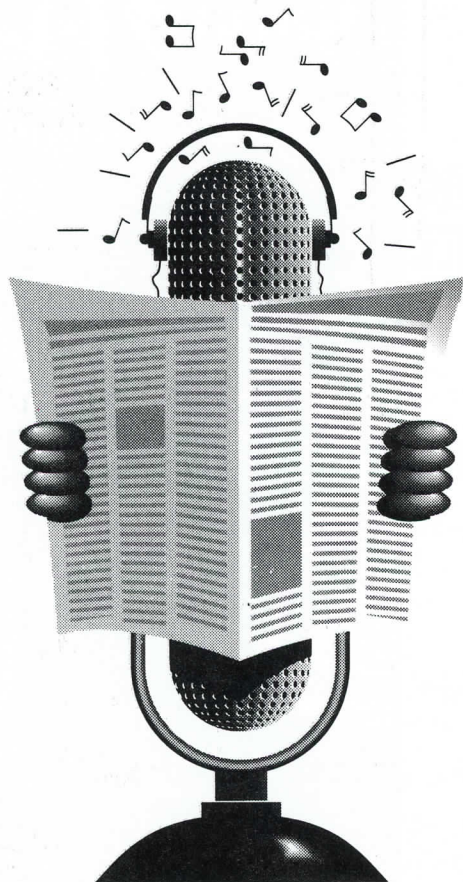


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University of Michigan
School of Music
Department of Theatre and Drama

presents

OUR TOWN

A play by Thornton Wilder

Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

February 11 - 14, 1993

**This production is dedicated to William and Claribel Halstead, Professors Emeriti,
on the establishment of the William and Claribel Halstead Scholarships Society.**

Director
Philip Kerr

Scenic Designer
Jennifer Snoeyink

Costume Designer
Deborah Yegerlehner

Lighting Designer
Victor En Yu Tan

Voice Coach
Annette Masson

Stage Manager
David Mulder

The entire play takes place in Grovers Corners, N.H. and will be performed in three acts.

— There will be two intermissions. —

The Department of Theatre and Drama would like to congratulate Karyl Newman, a senior in design, for receiving the Costume Design Excellence award by the American College Theatre Festival for her costume designs for The Resurrection of Lady Lester.

Unauthorized use of cameras or recording devices in this theatre is strictly forbidden.
For everyone's benefit, latecomers will be seated at a suitable break or scene change.

Our Town is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The School of Music acknowledges the generosity of McKinley Associates, Inc.,
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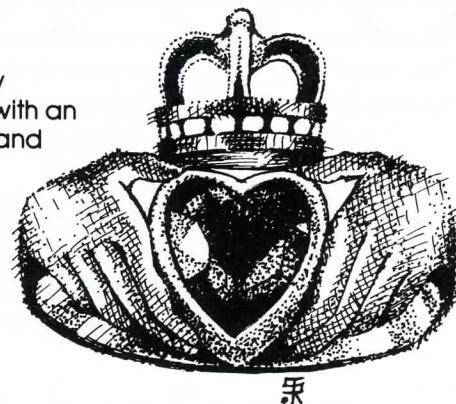
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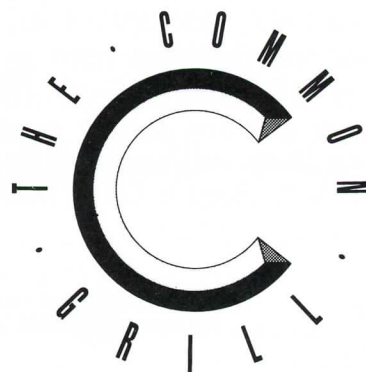
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The Cast

Stage Manager	Cecilia T. Grinwald
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Dr. Gibbs	Jared J. Hoffert
Mrs. Gibbs	Stephanie A. Pascaris
George Gibbs	Chris Stapleton
Rebecca Gibbs	Jane Jepson
Mr. Webb	Andrew Newberg
Mrs. Webb	Rebecca Winston
Emily Webb	Jennifer Johns
Wally Webb	Charles E. Goodin
Simon Stimson, <i>choir master</i>	Anthony Giangrande
Howie Newsome, <i>milkman</i>	Joshua Funk
Joe & Si Crowell, <i>newsboys</i>	Brandon Epland
Constable Warren, <i>policeman</i>	Shawn Miller
Shorty Hawkins, <i>trainman</i>	Joe Gold
Joe Stoddard, <i>undertaker</i>	Paul Bartley
Miss Corcoran, <i>teacher</i>	Katherine Guyton
Mrs. Soames	Elise Bryant
Farmer McCarty	Eric Black
Mr. Carter	Paul Molnar
Mr. Foster	Andrew Gorney
Mrs. Fairchild	Christy Wright
Mrs. Slocum	Melissa Jean Rosen
Martha	Christina M. Traister
Sam Craig	H. Terry Snowday
Bob	Sylvin Jankowski
Stew	Robert Stanchina
Helen	Lauren M. Odar
Louise	Julie Suzanne Miller
Ernestine	Heather Fine

The great sin is to assume that something that has been read once has been read forever. Nobody ever reads the same book twice.

— Robertson Davies

Life in other times past was never on a track, any more than now, or ever will be. The past after all is only another name for someone else's present.

— David McCullough

I have one advantage: the dramatic vehicle as surprise.

— Thornton Wilder

Our Town is a poem about essentials and essences, not as much concerned with the way we happened to be living in America around the turn of the century as about what it means to be human. In a time of growing fragmentation and uncertainty, it is good to find an American play — the American play — that reminds us of our common destiny.

— Alan Schneider

What is happening in the American mind in that realm where the deepest motives are formed? What does the American now feel about the situation in which he finds himself — rich — poor, handsome — ugly, healthy — weakly, white — black?

— Thornton Wilder

The response we make when we "believe" a work of the imagination is that of saying: "This is the way things are. I have always known it without being fully aware that I knew it. Now in the presence of this play I know that I know it."

— Thornton Wilder

The problem lies in the effort to employ the past tense in such a way that it does not rob those events of their character of having occurred in freedom.

— Thornton Wilder

Our Town is not offered as a picture of life in a New Hampshire village; or as a speculation about the conditions of life after death. It is an attempt to find a value above all price for the smallest events in our daily life.

— Thornton Wilder

Of the great poems received from abroad and from the ages, and today enveloping and penetrating America, is there one that is consistent with these United States, or essentially applicable to them as they are and as they are to be? Is there one whose underlying basis is not a denial and insult to democracy?

— Walt Whitman

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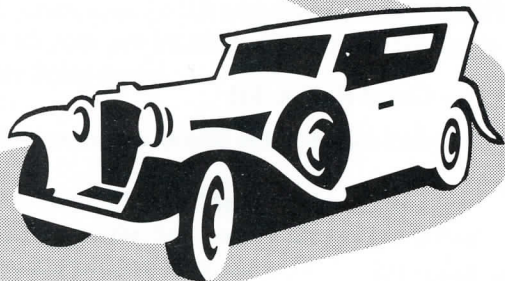
- Paul Bartley** (*Joe Stoddard*) freshman — BFA — Theatre — Cincinnati, OH
- Eric Black** (*Farmer McCarty*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Ipswich, Suffolk, England
- Elise Bryant** (*Mrs. Soames*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Ann Arbor, MI
- Brandon Epland** (*Joe & Si Crowell*) freshman — BFA — Theatre — New York, NY
- Heather Fine** (*Ernestine*) freshman — BFA — Theatre/English — W. Bloomfield, MI
- Joshua Funk** (*Howie Newsome*) sophomore — BFA — Musical Theatre — Chicago, IL
- Anthony Giangrande** (*Simon Stimson*) senior — BFA — Theatre/Psychology — Grand Rapids, MI
- Joe Gold** (*Shorty Hawkins*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Stamford, CT
- Charles E. Goodin** (*Wally Webb*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Manton, MI
- Andrew Gorney** (*Mr. Foster*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Jackson, MI
- Cecilia T. Grinwald** (*Stage Manager*) sophomore — BFA — Theatre — Big Bend, WI
- Katherine Guyton** (*Miss Corcoran*) sophomore — BFA — Musical Theatre — Atlanta, GA
- Jared J. Hoffert** (*Dr. Gibbs*) junior — BFA — Theatre/Communications — Bloomfield Hills, MI
- Sylvin Jankowski** (*Bob*) sophomore — BFA — Theatre — W. Bloomfield, MI
- Jane Jepson** (*Rebecca Gibbs*) sophomore — BFA — Theatre — Kalamazoo, MI
- Jennifer Johns** (*Emily Webb*) senior — BFA — Musical Theatre — Lansing, MI
- Shawn Miller** (*Constable Warren*) junior — BA — Communications/English — El Dorado, KS
- Julie Suzanne Miller** (*Louise*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Warren, MI
- Paul Molnar** (*Mr. Carter*) sophomore — BFA — Theatre — Dearborn Hts., MI
- David Mulder** (*Professor Willard*) junior — BFA — Theatre/English — Spring Lake, MI
- Andrew Newberg** (*Mr. Webb*) senior — BFA — Theatre/English — Rochester, MI
- Lauren M. Odar** (*Helen*) senior — BFA — Theatre/Accounting — Galesburg, MI
- Stephanie A. Pascaris** (*Mrs. Gibbs*) sophomore — BFA — Theatre — Dearborn Hts., MI
- Melissa Jean Rosen** (*Mrs. Slocum*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Mt. Clemens, MI
- H. Terry Snowday** (*Sam Craig*) senior — BFA — Theatre/English — Traverse City, MI
- Robert Stanchina** (*Stew*) senior — BFA — Theatre — Redford, MI
- Chris Stapleton** (*George Gibbs*) senior — BFA — Theatre/Communications — Sherman, IL
- Christina M. Traister** (*Martha*) junior — BFA — Theatre — Lansing, MI
- Rebecca Winston** (*Mrs. Webb*) junior — BFA — Theatre/History — Ann Arbor, MI
- Christy Wright** (*Mrs. Fairchild*) senior — BFA — Theatre — Charlotte, MI

About the Artists

Thornton Wilder was born in 1897 in Madison, Wisconsin, and went on to earn degrees from Yale and Princeton Universities. He was first recognized as a writer of novels; his first book, *The Cabala*, was written in 1926. Wilder was awarded his first Pulitzer Prize for his second novel, *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*. Wilder also wrote one-act as well as full-length plays. Two of Wilder's full-length plays, *Our Town* (first produced on a bare stage in 1938) and *The Skin of Our Teeth*, earned him two more Pulitzer Prizes. In 1937, Wilder wrote an adaptation of *A Doll's House* for Ruth Gordon. Other famous works include *The Matchmaker*, *The Long Christmas Dinner*, and a 1932 translation of *Lucrece* for Katharine Cornell. Wilder's best plays all offered thoughtful, perceptive views of essentially ordinary people. Mr. Wilder died in 1975 and is recognized as one of America's premiere playwrights.

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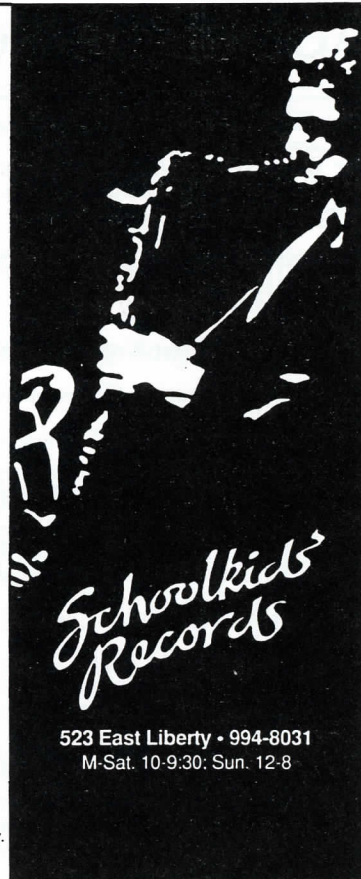
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Dave DiMartino

Senior West Coast writer, *Entertainment Weekly*.
Former Los Angeles Bureau chief, *Billboard*.
Record reviewer for *Spin* and *Musican*.



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- Professor, Director of Performance Training
- Broadway, Off-Broadway, LORT
- Member, AEA, SAG, AFTRA, SSDC, SAFD, and Dramatists Guild
- Director, White Creek Theatre Collective
- Co-founder, *The Moonshine Boys*

Jennifer Snoeyink (Scenic Designer)

- Second year MFA candidate in scenic design
- Set designer, *Insect Play*, *Snow Queen*, Young People's Theatre, Ann Arbor; *Rapunzel*, *Beauty and the Beast*, Tibbits Opera House, Coldwater, MI
- Set designer, *Mary of Nimmegen*, Harlotry Players, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, Toronto

Victor En Yu Tan (Lighting Designer)

- Associate Professor, Lighting Design
- Lighting designer, *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine*, Musical Theatre Program
- Lighting designer, *Fences*, *Substance of Fire*, Asolo Theatre, Sarasota, FL; *TEA*, *A Christmas Carol*, Syracuse Stage; *On Borrowed Time*, Pasadena Playhouse and Birmingham Theatre

Deborah Yegerlehner (Costume Designer)

- Third year MFA candidate in costume design
- Costume designer, *Pal Joey*, Musical Theatre Program; *Trelawny of the "Wells"*, *The Broken Pitcher*, *Pelleas and Melisande*, Dept. of Theatre & Drama
- Costume designer, *Better All the Time*, Trueblood Theatre
- Costume designer, *Tullyatin Crossed* and *Relatively Speaking*, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Acknowledgements

A special thanks to Nicholson's Enterprises, Inc.

The performers in this production are composed of undergraduate students in the Department of Theatre and Drama, which is a department of the School of Music. Scenery, costumes, properties, and lighting were created by students and the staff of University Productions, the producing unit of the School of Music.

Department of Theatre & Drama Full-Time Faculty		
Design & Production	Performance	Theatre Studies
Peter Beudert	Erik Fredricksen	John Russell Brown
Alan Billings	Sarah-Jane Gwillim	Bert Cardullo
Laura Crow	Philip Kerr	Charles Jackson
Gary Decker	Annette Masson	OyamO
Victor En Yu Tan	Janet Maylie	Martin Walsh
	Jerald Schwiebert	Leigh Woods

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PRODUCTION STAFF Production Manager: Mark Sullivan Production Stage Manager: Brett Finley Master Electrician: Henry Reynolds Technical Director (Power): Rolfe Bergsman Technical Director (Frieze): Gary Decker Associate Technical Director (Frieze): Richard Lindsay Master Carpenter: Bill Abbott Carpenter: Don Watkins Scenic Artist: Susan M. Crabtree Scenic Painter: Robin Lee Garber Properties Master: Leah Harris Properties Assistant: Kely Reisfeld Costume Shop Manager: Julie Edeburn Frieze Shop Manager: Robert Haven Associate Drapers: Vickie L. Sadler, Susan A. Hamilton Sound Engineer: Roger Arnett House Technicians: Ron Cypert, Jim Haven, Barry LaRue Office Assistants: Yael Hoffman, Cathrin Wiegandt
PRODUCTION CREWS Assistant to the Director: Karyl Newman Assistant Stage Managers: Jennifer Dell, Sunil Rajan Apprentice to the Lighting Designer: Peter Drost Costume Draper: Sarah McCullough First Hand/Stitcher: Angela K. Patten Costumes: Mary Berry, George Bacon, Patricia Moore, and students of T250 Millinery: Students of T475 Lighting/Sound: Shannon Bigler, Jeannette Burton, Gary Ciarkowski, Jeff Dine, Peter Drost, Becky Hoisington, Mike Little, Stephen Pax, Alan Pilukas*, Sunil Rajan*, Greg Reidenbach, Mark Russell, Rick Smith, Becky Trombley, Rebecca Valentino, and students of T250, 251, 252, 261, 262, 351, and 352 Paint: Toni Auletti, Gaetane Bertol, Francesa Callow, Brandon Epland, Yasmin Etemadi, Heather McDonald, and students of T250 Props: Sean Kinlin, Kate Linebaugh, and students of T250, 251, and 351 Sets: Paul Collins, Lael Easton, Warren Lehmkuhle, Jason Lievens, Stephanie Pascaris, Jennifer Snoeyink
RUNNING CREWS Set: Camilo Fontecilla, Mariana Trajtenberg Electrics: Eric Swartz* (head), Sherry Domstein*, Caroline de Fauw*, Aaron Tishkowski* Props: Amanda Temple Wardrobe: Holly Ferns*, Lakeisha Harrison* Make-up: George Bacon*, Rebecca Ann Valentino* *In fulfillment of coursework in the School of Music †Supplied by IATSE Local 395

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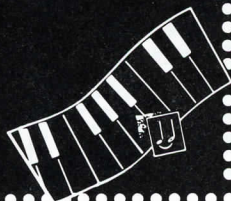
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Erik Fredricksen, Department Chair

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M. Haskell and Jan Barney Newman
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Linda Bennett* and Bob Bagramian
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Doris N. Caddell
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Tom and Judy Croxton
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Nita Wakefield Eggertsen
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G. Robinson and Ann Gregory
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Donald J. and Carolyn Dana Lewis
John J. McGowan*
Carla and Alan Mandel
Margaret L. Mann
Ann W. Martin
Dores M. McCree (*in honor of Phyllis Wright*)
Kathleen McGill (*in memory of Catherine and Columb McGill*)
Myrna and Newell Miller
Elizabeth Ong
Molly Prendergast
James J. Piper
Jim and Ieva Rasmussen
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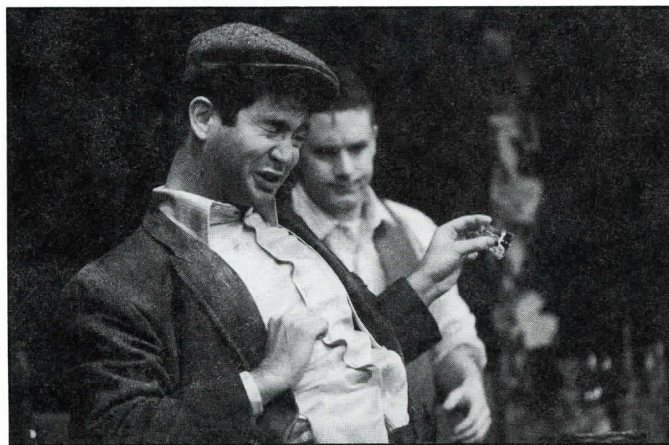
Andromache

A classic tragedy written by French playwright Jean Racine, *Andromache* is a portrait of a courageous woman and her struggle for survival. This production is directed and adapted by John Russell Brown. Department of Theatre & Drama * April 1 - 4 & 8 - 11 * Trueblood Theatre

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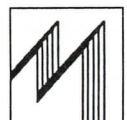
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The Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
April 7, 8, 9, 10, 1993

ON THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

book and lyrics by Betty Comden
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music by Cy Coleman

based on a play by Ben Hecht
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and also a play by Bruce Milholland

directed by Jim Posante

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MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS

by Athol Fugard

directed by Conrad Mason

The Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
June 9, 10, 11, 12, 1993

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre — Second Stage —

BURN THIS

by Lanford Wilson

directed by Jan Koenigter

January 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30,
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A MACBETH

by William Shakespeare

adapted by Charles Marowitz

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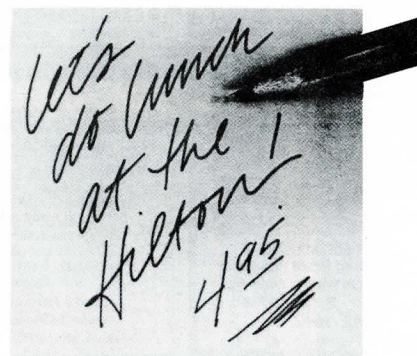
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